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that obey specified laws. [Middle English, bone-setting, and Italian, algebra, both from Medieval Latin, from Arabic *al-jabr*, the (science of) reuniting: *al*, the + *jabr*, reunification, bone-setting.]

—*al'ge·bra'ist* (—brā'ist) *n.*

al·ge·bra·ic (āl'jā-brā'ik) *adj.* **Mathematics.** 1. Of, relating to, or designating algebra. 2. Designating an expression, an equation, or a function in which only numbers, letters, and arithmetic operations are contained or used. 3. Indicating or restricted to a finite number of operations involving algebra. —*al'ge·bra'i·cal·ly* *adv.*

algebraic language *n.* 1. **Mathematics.** The conventional method of writing expressions and formulas. 2. **Computer Science.** A computer language whose statements are designed to resemble algebraic expressions.

algebraic number *n.* **Mathematics.** A number that is a root of a polynomial equation with rational coefficients.

Al·ge·ci·ras (āl'jī-sīr'ās, āl'hē-thē'rās). A city of southern Spain on the Bay of Algeciras opposite Gibraltar. It is a port and tourist center. Population, 92,474.

Al·ger (āl'jār), **Horatio.** 1832–1899. American writer of inspirational adventure books, such as *Ragged Dick* (1867), featuring impoverished boys who through hard work and virtue achieve great wealth and respect.

Al·ge·ri·a (āl-jīr'ē-ā). **Abbrev. Alg.** A country of northwest Africa bordering on the Mediterranean Sea. Algeria gained its independence from France in 1962 after a long terrorist and guerrilla campaign. Algiers is the capital and the largest city. Population, 16,948,000. —*Al·ge·ri·an* *adj.* & *n.*

—*algia* *suff.* Pain: *neuralgia*. [Greek, from *algos*, pain.]

al·gi·cide (āl'jī-sīd') *n.* A substance used to kill or inhibit the growth of algae. [*ALGA* + *-CIDE*.]

al·gid (āl'jīd) *adj.* Cold; chilly. [Latin *algidus*, from *algere*, to be cold.] —*al·gid'i·ty* (—jīd'i-tē) *n.*

Al·giers (āl-jīr'). The capital and largest city of Algeria, in the north on the Bay of Algiers, an arm of the Mediterranean Sea. An ancient North African port, Algiers was captured by French forces in 1830 and was later a pivotal center of the struggle for Algerian independence. Population, 1,523,000.

al·gin (āl'jīn) *n.* Any of several derivatives, such as sodium alginate or alginic acid, of a gelatinous substance extracted from certain brown algae and widely used as a thickening, stabilizing, emulsifying, or suspending agent in industrial, pharmaceutical, and food products, such as ice cream. [*ALGA* + *-IN*.]

al·gi·nate (āl'jā-nāt') *n.* A salt of alginic acid, such as sodium alginate.

al·gin·ic acid (āl-jīn'ik) *n.* An insoluble colloidal acid in the form of a carboxylated polysaccharide that is abundant in the cell walls of brown algae.

algo— *pref.* Pain: *algophobia*. [From Greek *algos*, pain.]

al·goid (āl'goid') *adj.* Of or resembling algae.

Al·gol (āl'gōl', -gōl') *n.* A double, eclipsing variable star in the constellation Perseus, almost as bright as Polaris. [Arabic *al-ghul*: *al*, the + *ghul*, ghoul; see *GHOUL*.]

AL·GOL also **Algol** (āl'gōl', -gōl') *n.* **Computer Science.** An algebraic computer language for solving primarily mathematical and scientific problems using algorithms. [*alg(orithmic) o(riented) l(anguage)*.]

al·go·lag·ni·a (āl'gō-lāg'nē-ā) *n.* Sexual gratification derived from inflicting or experiencing pain. [New Latin: *ALGO-* + Greek *lagneia*, lust (from *lagnos*, lustful; see *slæg-* in Appendix.)] —*al·go·lag'nic* *adj.* —*al·go·lag'nist* *n.*

al·gol·o·gy (āl'gōl'ō-jē) *n.* See **phycology**. [*ALGA* + *-LOGY*.] —*al·go·log'i·cal* (āl'gō-lōj'i-kāl) *adj.* —*al·go·log'i·cal·ly* *adv.* —*al·gol'o·gist* *n.*

Al·gon·ki·an (āl-gōng'kē-ān) *n., pl.* **Algonkian** or **-ans.** 1. **Geology.** Late Proterozoic. 2. Variant of **Algonquian**. [After the Algonkin Indians. See *ALGONQUIN*.]

Al·gon·kin (āl-gōng'kīn) *n., pl.* **Algonkin** or **-kins.** Variant of **Algonquian**.

Al·gon·qui·an (āl-gōng'kwē-ān, -kē-ān) also **Al·gon·ki·an** (—kē-ān) *n., pl.* **Algonquian** or **-ans** also **Algonkian** or **-ans.** 1. A family of North American Indian languages spoken or formerly spoken in an area from Labrador to the Carolinas between the Atlantic coast and the Rocky Mountains. 2. A member of a people traditionally speaking an Algonquian language. [From *ALGONQUIN*.] —*Al·gon'qui·an* *adj.*

Al·gon·quin (āl-gōng'kwīn, -kīn) also **Al·gon·kin** (—kīn) *n., pl.* **Algonquin** or **-quins** also **Algonkin** or **-kins.** 1. **a.** Any of various Native American peoples inhabiting the Ottawa River valley of Quebec and Ontario. **b.** A member of one of these peoples. 2. Any of the varieties of the Ojibwa language spoken by the peoples called Algonquin. [Canadian French.]

al·go·pho·bi·a (āl'gō-fō'bē-ā) *n.* An abnormal fear of pain. **al·go·rism** (āl'gō-rīz'əm) *n.* 1. The Arabic system of numeration; the decimal system. 2. Computation with Arabic figures. [Middle English *algorisme*, from Old French, from Medieval Latin *algorismus*, after Muhammad ibn-Musa al-KHWARIZMI.]

al·go·rithm (āl'gō-rīth'əm) *n.* **Mathematics.** A step-by-step problem-solving procedure, especially an established, recursive computational procedure for solving a problem in a finite number of steps. [Variant (probably influenced by *ARITHMETIC*) of *ALGORISM*.] —*al·go·rith'mic* (—rīth'mik) *adj.*

algorithmic language *n.* **Computer Science.** A programming language in which an algorithmic procedure can be expressed accurately.

al·gor mor'tis (āl'gār mōr'tis) *n.* The cooling of the body that follows death. [Latin *algor*, coolness + *mortis*, genitive of *mors*, death.]

Al·gren (āl'grīn), **Nelson.** 1909–1981. American writer noted for his novels about the pride and longings of impoverished people, including *The Man with the Golden Arm* (1949).

Al·ham·bra (āl-hām'brā). A citadel and palace on a hill overlooking Granada, Spain. Built by Moorish kings in the 12th and 13th centuries, the Alhambra is the finest example of Moorish architecture in Spain.

Al·ham·bra (āl-hām'brā). A city of southern California, a residential suburb of Los Angeles. Population, 64,615.

Al Hil·lah (āl hīl'ā, ēl). A city of central Iraq on a branch of the Euphrates River south of Baghdad. It was built c. 1100, largely of material salvaged from the nearby ruins of Babylon. Population, 215,249.

A·li (ā-lē'). 600?–661. Moslem caliph (656–661) after whose assassination Islam was divided into Sunnite and Shiite sects.

Ali, Muhammad. Originally Cassius Marcellus Clay. Born 1942. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight title in 1964, 1974, and 1978.

A·li·āk·mon (āl-yāk'mōn, ā'lē-āk'-). A river, about 322 km (200 mi) long, of northern Greece. It is the longest river in the country.

a·li·as (ā'lē-ās, āl'yās) *n.* 1. An assumed name: *The swindler worked under various aliases.* 2. **Electronics.** A false signal in telecommunication links from beats between signal frequency and sampling frequency. —*alias* *adv.* Also known as; otherwise: *Johnson, alias Johns.* [Latin, otherwise, from *alius*, other. See *al-* in Appendix.]

A·li Ba·ba (ā'lē bā'bā, ā'lē) *n.* A poor woodcutter in the Arabian Nights who gains entrance to the treasure cave of the 40 thieves by saying the magic words "Open, Sesame!"

al·i·bi (āl'ē-bī') *n., pl. -bis.* 1. **Law.** **a.** A form of defense whereby a defendant attempts to prove that he or she was elsewhere when the crime in question was committed. **b.** The fact of having been elsewhere when a crime in question was committed. 2. **Usage Problem.** An explanation offered to avoid blame or justify action; an excuse. —*alibi* *intr.v.* —*bied, -bi-ing, -bis.* **Usage Problem.** To make an excuse for oneself. [Latin, elsewhere: *alius*, other; see *al-* in Appendix + *ubi*, where; see *kwo-* in Appendix.]

USAGE NOTE: *Alibi* (noun) in its nonlegal sense of "an excuse" is acceptable in written usage to almost half of the Usage Panel. As an intransitive verb (*they never alibi*), it is unacceptable in written usage to a large majority of the Panel.

al·i·ble (āl'ē-bəl) *adj.* Having nutrients; nourishing. [Latin *alibilis*, from *alere*, to nourish. See *al-* in Appendix.]

Al·i·can·te (āl'i-kān'tē, ā'lē-kān'tē). A city of southeast Spain on the Mediterranean Sea south of Valencia. It is a port and tourist center. Population, 253,722.

Al·ice (āl'is). A city of southern Texas west of Corpus Christi. It is in a cattle-raising area that includes the enormous King Ranch. Population, 20,961.

Alice Springs. A town of Australia located near the center of the country. Tourism and mining are important to its economy. Population, 22,000.

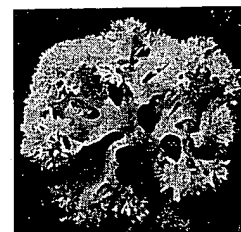
al·i·cy·clic (āl'i-sī'klīk, -sīk'lik) *adj.* Of or relating to organic compounds having both aliphatic and cyclic characteristics or structures. [*ALI(PHATIC)* + *CYCLIC*.]

al·i·dade (āl'i-dād') also **al·i·dad** (—dād') *n.* 1. An indicator or a sighting apparatus on a plane table, used in angular measurement. 2. A topographic surveying and mapping instrument used for determining directions, consisting of a telescope and attached parts. [French, from Medieval Latin *alidada*, sighting rod, from Arabic *al-idādah*, the revolving radius of a circle, from *'aḍud*, humerus.]

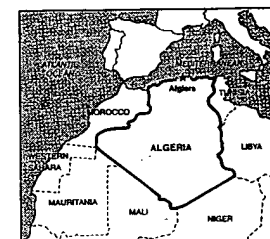
a·li·en (ā'lē-ān, āl'yān) *adj.* 1. Owing political allegiance to another country or government; foreign: *alien residents.* 2. Belonging to, characteristic of, or constituting another and very different place, society, or person; strange. See Synonyms at **foreign**. 3. Dissimilar, inconsistent, or opposed, as in nature: *emotions alien to her temperament.* See Synonyms at **extrinsic**. —**alien** *n.* 1. An unnaturalized foreign resident of a country. Also called *non-citizen*. 2. A person from another and very different family, people, or place. 3. A person who is not included in a group; an outsider. 4. A creature from outer space: *science fiction about an invasion of aliens.* 5. **Ecology.** A plant or an animal that occurs in or is naturalized in a region to which it is not native. —**alien** *tr.v.* —**ened, -en-ing, -ens.** **Law.** To transfer (property) to another; alienate. [Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *aliēnus*, from *alius*, other. See *al-* in Appendix.]

al·ien·a·ble (āl'yā-nā-bəl, ā'lē-ā-) *adj.* **Law.** Transferrable to the ownership of another. —*al·ien·a·bil'i·ty* *n.*

al·ien·ate (āl'yā-nāt', ā'lē-ā-) *tr.v.* —**at·ed, -at·ing, -ates.** 1. To cause to become unfriendly or hostile; estrange: *alienate a friend*; *alienate potential supporters by taking extreme positions.* See Synonyms at **estrangle**. 2. To cause to become withdrawn or



alga
Irish moss
Chondrus crispus



Algeria



Muhammad Ali

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō took
ā father	ōō boot
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī pie	th this
īr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ā about, item
ō paw	♦ regionalism

Stress marks: ' (primary);
' (secondary), as in
dictionary (dik'sha-nēr'ē)